

FESTUS AND AGRIPPA

Acts 25-26

Paul: I appeal to Caesar. Send me to Rome. **Caesar-- Nero!** Insane madman.

Acts 25:12 Council assessors of court, chief officers of government. Cabinet.

Acts 26:1 Stretched forth his hand: extended hand. Gesture to get attention

Acts 26:15

Phillips: *Knowledge painstakingly acquired by years of study in the wrong school all unraveled: "I am Jesus." It dawned on him in a flash. The answer to the need of his heart was Jesus, not Judaism – a living Man, not an obsolete religion. Well indeed had the Temple veil been rent when Jesus died at Calvary.*

Acts 26:16 Minister: under-rower, common sailor, subservient to another.

Witness: has knowledge and can give the details and facts. Eyewitness.

Acts 26:17 God did in Paul's life:

1. Called to Salvation
2. Commanded
3. Appeared
4. Made
5. Delivered
6. Sent

Key? Stay in will of God. Be sensitive to Holy Spirit

Acts 26:18 God opens spiritual eyes/hearts.

- Hagar: Gen. 21:19
- Balaam: Num. 22
- Disciples on road to Emmaus: Luke 24:31
- Jesus in upper room with disciples: Luke 24:45
- Eph 1:18-19...eyes of your understanding being enlightened.
 1. Hope
 2. Riches
 3. Greatness of Power.

Acts 26:24 Paul, you're crazy! You've read too many books, spent too much time staring off into space! Get a grip, man! Come back to planet earth.

Not uncommon for unconverted man to think a zealous Christian is out of his mind

Acts 26:25 No, not out of mind. I am giving it to you straight

Acts 26:26 King Agrippa who can verify these things.

...none of these things are hidden from him; King Agrippa had grown up around these things.
for this thing was not done in a corner. This manifestation of power of God done in full view of public.

Acts 26:27 King Agrippa, ...Do you believe prophets were credible men?

Obvious answer for Agrippa, being a Jew. Of course I do!

I know thou believest: I perceive that you trust them

Acts 26:28 *...Almost thou persuaded me:* A little more pressure from you and you will make me too a Christian. You are rushing me off my feet, Paul!

To be a Christian: A follower of Christ. Not a nice title

Attempt to make it appear Paul turned all of this into evangelistic service.

Typical of many content to listen to preaching--OK with message as long as messenger doesn't confront the will.

Almost persuaded --P.P. Bliss

*Almost persuaded, now to believe,
Almost persuaded, Christ to receive.
Seems now some soul to say,
Go, Spirit, go thy way;
Some more convenient day
On Thee I'll call.*

Acts 26:29 *And Paul said, I would to God, that not only thou, but also all that hear me this day, were both almost, and altogether such as I am, except these bonds.*

I would wish to God, that everyone listening to me might experience a personal relationship with Jesus Christ like me.

Acts 26:30 All willing to cast a vote against Lord Jesus Christ, and faithful servant, Paul.

Acts 26:31 This man has done nothing deserving of prison or death

Acts 26:32 *Then said Agrippa unto Festus, ...*He could be set free right now if he hadn't requested the hearing before Caesar.